

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 9, 11, 15 and 23 are amended to be independent format. Claims 1-28 are pending.

Applicants note that the Office Action has indicated that claims 12 and 26 are allowable and indicated a willingness to allow claims 6-7, 9, 11, 13-17, and 22-25, providing that these claims are rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of any base and intervening claims. However, claims 9, 11, 15 and 23 have been amended to be in independent format; accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 9, 11, 15 and 23 are also allowable.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-5, 8, 10, 18-21, and 27-28 under 35 U.S.C. §102 based on Lopez-Torres (US 6,144,647). Applicants traverse the rejection because Lopez-Torres fails to disclose, teach or suggest all the features recited in the rejected claims. For example, Lopez-Torres fails to disclose, teach or suggest:

-a method of controlling a multicall in a telecommunications system over a transmission path between a telecommunications network and a subscriber terminal, comprising setting up any new call in an existing multicall, according to a criterion, either by (i) setting up said new call on a new bearer, or (ii) setting up said new call on an existing bearer such that said existing bearer is shared by at least two calls"(as recited in independent claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-3, 5-8, 10, 13, 14, 16 and 17);

-a method of controlling a multicall in a telecommunications system over a transmission path between a telecommunications network and a subscriber terminal, comprising setting up any new call in an existing multicall, according to a criterion, either by (i) setting up said new call on a new bearer, or (ii) setting up said new call on an existing bearer such that said existing bearer is shared by at least two calls. . ." (as recited in independent claim 4);

- a method of controlling a multicall in a telecommunications system over a transmission path between a telecommunications network and a subscriber terminal, comprising setting up any new call in an existing multicall, according to a criterion, either by (i) setting up said new call on a new bearer, or (ii) setting up said new call on an existing bearer such that said existing bearer is shared by at least two calls. . ." (as recited in independent claim 12);

-a telecommunications system comprising an arrangement for controlling a multicall over a transmission path between a telecommunications network and a subscriber terminal, the network being configured to set up a new call in an existing multicall, according to a criterion, either by (i) setting up said new call on a new bearer, or (ii) setting up said new call on an existing bearer such that said existing bearer is shared by at least two calls"(as recited in independent claim 18 and its dependent claims 19, 20, 22, 24, 25);

-a telecommunications system comprising an arrangement for controlling a multical call over transmission path between a telecommunications network and a subscriber terminal, the network being configured to set up a new call in an existing multical call, according to a criterion, either by (i) setting up said new call on a new bearer, or (ii) setting up said new call on an existing bearer such that said existing bearer is shared by at least two calls. . ." (as recited in independent claim 21);

-a telecommunication system comprising an arrangement for controlling a multical call over a transmission path between a telecommunications network and a subscriber terminal, the network being configured to set up a new call in an existing multical call, according to a criterion, either by (i) setting up said new call on a new bearer, or (ii) setting up said new call on an existing bearer such that said existing bearer is shared by at least two calls. . ." (as recited in independent claim 26); and

-a subscriber terminal, "the terminal being configured to be able to indicate at a setup stage of a new call in an existing multical call whether said new call is set up on a new bearer or on an existing bearer such that said existing bearer will be shared by at least two calls" (as recited in independent claim 27 and its dependent claim 28).

Lopez-Torres merely discloses a communication system wherein a number of concurrent calls (single-dialogues) can be set up between a mobile switching centre and a mobile station using a corresponding number of communication channels (see, column 5, line 60 - column 6, line 10 and Figures 2, 3a and 3b, illustrating that each call employs a dedicated traffic channel).

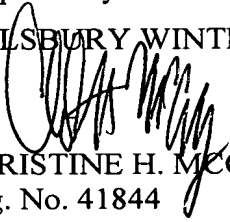
Although the Office Action referred specifically to paragraphs 14 and 15 of Lopez-Torres, those paragraphs clearly teach that a multi-dialogue call utilizes multiple traffic channels, which is contrary to the claimed invention.

Specifically, the rejected claims recite that one bearer is shared by at least two calls. Therefore, present claims 1-5, 8, 10, 18-21, and 27-28 are not anticipated by Lopez-Torres.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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